

109TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2688

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage private philanthropy.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 1, 2006

Mr. ISAKSON introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage private philanthropy.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Personal Philanthropy
5 Account Act of 2006”.

6 **SEC. 2. PERSONAL PHILANTHROPY ACCOUNTS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Part VII of subchapter B of chap-
8 ter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to
9 additional itemized deductions for individuals) is amended

1 by redesignating section 224 as section 225 and by insert-
 2 ing after section 223 the following new section:

3 **“SEC. 224. PERSONAL PHILANTHROPY ACCOUNTS.**

4 “(a) ALLOWANCE OF DEDUCTION.—In the case of an
 5 individual, there shall be allowed as a deduction for the
 6 taxable year an amount equal to the aggregate amount
 7 paid in cash during such taxable year by or on behalf of
 8 such individual to a personal philanthropy account of such
 9 individual.

10 “(b) PERSONAL PHILANTHROPY ACCOUNT.—For
 11 purposes of this section, the term ‘personal philanthropy
 12 account’ means a trust created or organized in the United
 13 States exclusively for the purpose of making distributions
 14 for the charitable purposes designated by an individual
 15 who is the account holder of the trust (and designated as
 16 an personal philanthropy account at the time created or
 17 organized), but only if the written governing instrument
 18 creating the trust meets the following requirements:

19 “(1) No contribution will be accepted unless it
 20 is in cash.

21 “(2) The trustee is a bank (as defined in sec-
 22 tion 408(n)), community foundation, or another per-
 23 son who demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Sec-
 24 retary that the manner in which that person will ad-
 25 minister the trust will be consistent with the require-

1 ments of this section or who has so demonstrated
 2 with respect to any personal philanthropy account
 3 and who is not disqualified under subsection (f).

4 “(3) No part of the trust assets will be invested
 5 in life insurance contracts.

6 “(4) The assets of the trust shall not be com-
 7 mingled with other property except in a common
 8 trust fund or common investment fund.

9 “(c) DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES.—For pur-
 10 poses of this section—

11 “(1) DEFAULT DISTRIBUTION RULES.—

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—No account shall be
 13 treated as a personal philanthropy account un-
 14 less at all times there are in effect qualified de-
 15 fault charitable organization designations under
 16 subparagraphs (B) and (C).

17 “(B) QUALIFIED DEFAULT CHARITABLE
 18 ORGANIZATION DESIGNATION.—For purposes of
 19 subparagraph (A), a qualified default charitable
 20 organization designation in effect under this
 21 subparagraph is the designation by the account
 22 holder of an organization to which the remain-
 23 der of such account may be made in the form
 24 of a qualified philanthropy payment upon the
 25 death of the account holder in any case in

1 which the account holder fails to provide by will
 2 or other suitable estate document for the dis-
 3 tribution of the assets of such account.

4 “(C) TRUSTEE DESIGNATION.—For pur-
 5 poses of subparagraph (A), a qualified default
 6 charitable organization designation in effect
 7 under this subparagraph is the designation by
 8 the trustee of the personal philanthropy account
 9 of an organization to which a payment under
 10 subparagraph (B) will be made if the organiza-
 11 tion designated under subparagraph (B) is not
 12 qualified to receive a qualified philanthropy
 13 payment at the time of such payment.

14 “(2) MINIMUM DISTRIBUTION REQUIRE-
 15 MENTS.—

16 “(A) IN GENERAL.—No account shall be
 17 treated as a personal philanthropy account for
 18 a taxable year unless such account meets the
 19 minimum distribution requirements for such
 20 taxable year.

21 “(B) MINIMUM DISTRIBUTION REQUIRE-
 22 MENT.—An account meets the minimum dis-
 23 tribution requirements for a taxable year if the
 24 aggregate distributions from the account for the
 25 taxable year are not less than 5 percent of the

1 balance of such account as of the last day of
 2 the preceding taxable year.

3 “(C) EXCEPTION FOR ACCOUNTS WITH A
 4 BALANCE OF LESS THAN \$10,000.—Subpara-
 5 graph (A) shall not apply to any account for a
 6 taxable year if the balance of such account as
 7 of the last day of the preceding taxable year is
 8 less than \$10,000.

9 “(3) DENIAL OF DEDUCTION TO DEPEND-
 10 ENTS.—No deduction shall be allowed under this
 11 section to any individual with respect to whom a de-
 12 duction under section 151 is allowable to another
 13 taxpayer for a taxable year beginning in the cal-
 14 endar year in which such individual’s taxable year
 15 begins.

16 “(4) COMMUNITY FOUNDATION.—For purposes
 17 of this section, the term ‘community foundation’
 18 means a non-sectarian organization—

19 “(A) whose long-term goal is to build per-
 20 manent, named component funds established by
 21 many separate donors for the broad-based char-
 22 itable benefit of the residents of a defined geo-
 23 graphic area, and

24 “(B) which—

1 “(i) is described in section 501(c)(3)
 2 and exempt from tax under section 501(a),
 3 “(ii) is not a private foundation, and
 4 “(iii) is not controlled directly or indi-
 5 rectly by one or more disqualified persons
 6 (as defined in section 4946, determined
 7 without regard to subsection (a)(1)(B)
 8 thereof).

9 “(d) TAX TREATMENT OF DISTRIBUTIONS.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Any distribution from a
 11 personal philanthropy account shall be includible in
 12 the gross income of the account holder in the man-
 13 ner as provided in section 72.

14 “(2) QUALIFIED PHILANTHROPY PAYMENTS.—

15 “(A) IN GENERAL.—No amount shall be
 16 includible in gross income under paragraph (1)
 17 to the extent that such distribution is a quali-
 18 fied philanthropy payment.

19 “(B) QUALIFIED PHILANTHROPY PAYMENT
 20 DEFINED.—For purposes of this section, the
 21 term ‘qualified philanthropy payment’ means a
 22 distribution from a personal philanthropy ac-
 23 count—

24 “(i) which is made, pursuant to a re-
 25 quest by the account holder, by the trustee

of the account within 30 days after receipt
by the trustee of a certification under sub-
paragraph (C), and

“(ii) which is paid for a purpose speci-
fied in section 170(c).

A trustee who fails to meet the 30-day require-
ment of clause (i) shall be subject to disquali-
fication as a trustee.

“(C) ORGANIZATION CERTIFICATION.—For
purposes of subparagraph (B)(i), a certification
under this subparagraph is a certification by an
organization pursuant to a written request by
the trustee of a personal philanthropy account
that the organization is an organization
which—

“(i) is described in section 501(c)(3)
and exempt from tax under section 501(a),
and

“(ii) is not a personal philanthropy
account.

“(D) COORDINATION WITH CHARITABLE
CONTRIBUTIONS.—

“(i) No deduction shall be allowed
under sections 170, 642(c), 2055,
2106(a)(2), or 2522 for any amount ex-

1 cluded from gross income under subpara-
2 graph (A),

3 “(ii) under regulations, the amount
4 allowable as a deduction under sections
5 170, 642(c), 2055, 2106(a)(2), or 2522 (as
6 appropriate) for the taxable year (without
7 regard to this clause) shall be reduced by
8 the amount excluded from gross income for
9 the taxable year under subparagraph (A),
10 and

11 “(iii) section 170(d) shall not apply to
12 any amount excluded from gross income
13 under subparagraph (A).

14 “(3) ROLLOVER CONTRIBUTIONS.—

15 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) shall
16 not apply to any amount paid or distributed
17 from a personal philanthropy account to the ex-
18 tent that the amount received is paid, not later
19 than the 60th day after the date of such pay-
20 ment or distribution, into another personal phi-
21 lanthropy account of the same account holder.
22 The preceding sentence shall not apply to any
23 payment or distribution if it applied to any
24 prior payment or distribution during the 12-

1 month period ending on the date of the pay-
 2 ment or distribution.

3 “(B) HEIR.—Paragraph (1) shall not
 4 apply to any amount paid or distributed from
 5 a personal philanthropy account of a decedent
 6 to the extent that the amount received is paid,
 7 not later than the 60th day after the date of
 8 such payment or distribution, into the personal
 9 philanthropy account of an heir of the decedent,
 10 as designated by the will of the decedent.

11 “(e) TAX TREATMENT OF ACCOUNT.—

12 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A personal philanthropy
 13 account shall be exempt from taxation under this
 14 subtitle. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence,
 15 the personal philanthropy account shall be subject to
 16 the taxes imposed by section 511 (relating to imposi-
 17 tion of tax on unrelated business income of chari-
 18 table organizations).

19 “(2) ACCOUNT TERMINATIONS.—Rules similar
 20 to the rules of paragraphs (2) and (4) of section
 21 408(e) shall apply to any personal philanthropy ac-
 22 count.

23 “(f) DISQUALIFICATION OF TRUSTEE.—The trustee
 24 of a personal philanthropy account shall not be qualified
 25 to be a trustee of such account after a final determination

1 by the Secretary that the trustee has disbursed more than
 2 10 percent of its payments from personal philanthropy ac-
 3 counts to non-qualifying organizations in a calendar year.

4 “(g) REPORTS.—The trustee of a personal philan-
 5 thropy account shall make such reports regarding such ac-
 6 count to the Secretary and to the holder the account with
 7 respect to contributions, distributions, and such other
 8 matters as the Secretary may require. The reports re-
 9 quired by this subsection shall be filed at such time and
 10 in such manner and furnished to such individuals at such
 11 time and in such manner as may be required.”.

12 (b) DEDUCTION ALLOWED WHETHER OR NOT INDIVIDUAL
 13 ITEMIZES OTHER DEDUCTIONS.—Subsection (a)
 14 of section 62 of such Code is amended by inserting before
 15 the flush sentence at the end the following new paragraph:

16 “(21) PERSONAL PHILANTHROPY ACCOUNTS.—
 17 The deduction allowed under section 224.”.

18 (c) EXCLUSION FOR EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS TO
 19 PERSONAL PHILANTHROPY ACCOUNTS.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Part III of subchapter B of
 21 chapter 1 of such Code is amended by inserting
 22 after section 139A the following new section:

1 **“SEC. 139B. CONTRIBUTIONS BY EMPLOYER TO PERSONAL**
 2 **PHILANTHROPY ACCOUNTS.**

3 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Gross income of an employee
 4 does not include contributions by the employer to the per-
 5 sonal philanthropy account of the employee.

6 “(b) PERSONAL PHILANTHROPY ACCOUNT.—For
 7 purposes of this section, the term ‘personal philanthropy
 8 account’ shall have the meaning given to such term by
 9 section 224.

10 “(c) EXCLUSION NOT TO EXCEED COMPENSA-
 11 TION.—

12 “(1) EMPLOYEES.—The amount excluded from
 13 gross income by subsection (a) with respect to an
 14 employee shall not exceed such employee’s wages,
 15 salaries, tips, and other employee compensation
 16 which are attributable to such employee’s employ-
 17 ment by the employer referred to in such subsection.

18 “(2) SELF-EMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS.—The
 19 amount excluded from gross income by subsection
 20 (a) for contributions with respect to an individual
 21 who is self employed shall not exceed such individ-
 22 ual’s earned income (as defined in section 401(c)(2))
 23 derived by the taxpayer from the trade or business
 24 with respect to which the individual is self-employed.

25 “(3) COMMUNITY PROPERTY LAWS NOT TO
 26 APPLY.—The limitations under this subsection shall

1 be determined without regard to community prop-
 2 erty laws.”.

3 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

4 (A) Section 3121(a) of such Code is
 5 amended by striking “or” at the end of para-
 6 graph (21), by striking the period at the end of
 7 paragraph (22) and inserting “; or ”, and by
 8 inserting after paragraph (22) the following
 9 new paragraph:

10 “(23) any payment made to a personal philan-
 11 thropy account (as defined in section 224) of an em-
 12 ployee.”.

13 (B) Section 3231(e) of such Code is
 14 amended by adding at the end the following
 15 new paragraph:

16 “(13) PERSONAL PHILANTHROPY ACCOUNT
 17 CONTRIBUTIONS.—The term ‘compensation’ shall
 18 not include any payment made to a personal philan-
 19 thropy account (as defined in section 224) of an em-
 20 ployee.”.

21 (C) Section 3306(b) of such Code is
 22 amended by striking “or” at the end of para-
 23 graph (18), by striking the period at the end of
 24 paragraph (19) and inserting “; or”, and by in-

1 serting after paragraph (19) the following new
2 paragraph:

3 “(20) any payment made to a personal philan-
4 thropy account (as defined in section 224) of an em-
5 ployee.”.

6 (D) Section 3401(a) of such Code is
7 amended by striking “or” at the end of para-
8 graph (21), by striking the period at the end of
9 paragraph (22) and inserting “; or”, and by in-
10 serting after paragraph (22) the following new
11 paragraph:

12 “(23) any payment made to a personal philan-
13 thropy account (as defined in section 224) of an em-
14 ployee.”.

15 (E) Section 6051(a) of such Code is
16 amended by striking “and” at the end of para-
17 graph (12), by striking the period at the end of
18 paragraph (13) and inserting “, and”, and by
19 inserting after paragraph (13) the following
20 new paragraph:

21 “(14) the amount contributed to any personal
22 philanthropy account (as defined in section 224) of
23 such employee or such employee’s spouse.”.

24 (d) PROHIBITED TRANSACTIONS.—

1 (1) EXCEPTION FOR TAXABLE DISTRIBUTIONS
 2 FROM PERSONAL PHILANTHROPY ACCOUNTS.—Sub-
 3 section (c) of section 4975 of such Code (defining to
 4 prohibited transaction) is amended by adding at the
 5 end the following new paragraph:

6 “(7) SPECIAL RULE FOR PERSONAL PHILAN-
 7 THROPY ACCOUNTS.—An individual for whose ben-
 8 efit a personal philanthropy account is established
 9 and any contributor to such account shall be exempt
 10 from the tax imposed by this section with respect to
 11 any transaction concerning such account (which
 12 would otherwise be taxable under this section) if sec-
 13 tion 224(d) applies with respect to such trans-
 14 action.”.

15 (2) PLAN DEFINED.—Paragraph (1) of section
 16 4975(e) of such Code is amended by striking “or”
 17 at the end of subparagraph (F), by striking the pe-
 18 riod at the end of subparagraph (G) and inserting
 19 “, or”, and by inserting after subparagraph (G) the
 20 following new subparagraph:

21 “(H) a personal philanthropy account de-
 22 scribed in section 224.”.

23 (e) PENALTY ON FAILURE TO REPORT.—Paragraph
 24 (2) of section 6693(a) of such Code (relating to provisions)
 25 is amended by striking “and” at the end of subparagraph

1 (D), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph
 2 (E) and inserting “, and”, and by inserting after subpara-
 3 graph (E) the following new subparagraph:

4 “(F) section 224(f) (relating to personal
 5 philanthropy accounts).”.

6 (f) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (2) of
 7 section 26(b) of such Code is amended by striking “and”
 8 at the end of subparagraph (S), by striking the period at
 9 the end of subparagraph (T) and inserting “, and”, and
 10 by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

11 “(U) section 224(d)(3) relating to (relating
 12 to additional tax with respect to distributions
 13 not used for charitable contribution pur-
 14 poses).”.

15 (g) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

16 (1) The table of sections for part VII of sub-
 17 chapter B of chapter 1 of such Code is amended by
 18 redesignating the item relating to section 224 as an
 19 item relating to section 225 and by inserting after
 20 the item relating to section 223 the following new
 21 item:

“Sec. 224. Personal philanthropy accounts.”.

22 (2) The table of sections for part III of sub-
 23 chapter B of chapter 1 of such Code is amended by

1 inserting after the item relating to section 139A the
2 following new item:

 “Sec. 139B. Contributions by employer to personal philanthropy accounts.”.

3 (h) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by
4 this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after
5 December 31, 2005.

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